Products for Human Consumption Containing 2% or Less Meat Exported to Taiwan

The following information is based on information provided to the USDA by the government of Taiwan, and is subject to change without notice.

I. MATERIALS COVERED

These are the requirements for the import of products containing poultry or pork meat or derivatives (2% or less) to Taiwan.

II. MATERIALS NOT COVERED

- a. Currently products containing ruminant origin items (beef, tallow, mutton, etc.) are believed to be prohibited.
- b. Canned (hermetically sealed) products are exempt from these requirements.
- c. Materials containing no animal origin ingredients except for those of dairy, egg, or fish origin are not covered by these requirements.
- d. Materials containing greater than 2% meat. The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) should be contacted for information on the export of products containing greater than 2% meat. The FSIS Technical Services Center may be contacted at 402-221-7400. APHIS-VS does not issue export certificates for products for human consumption if those products contain greater than 2% meat.

III. REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY

- a. The manufacturer must be approved by a competent authority in the US to produce the product. The competent authority must be a governmental regulatory authority such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), a State Department of Agriculture, or a local authority with jurisdiction over foods for human consumption. Documentation from economic entities such as Chambers of Commerce is not acceptable.
- b. Animal origin ingredients, other than those of dairy, egg, and fish origin, and vitamins, must bear the FSIS mark of inspection, or, if imported, be imported with certification from the government of origin verifying that the material passed post mortem inspection and is derived from animals that passed ante mortem inspection.
- c. Products must be packaged in new containers.

- d. The manufacturer (which may not be the same individual as the exporter) must maintain records for each lot of product to be exported for at least two years after production. These records must contain the following information:
 - o Species of origin of meat
 - FSIS approved production facility of meat or, for imported materials, copies of government issued export certificates for the meat ingredients.
 - o Quantity and date of receipt of meat ingredients
 - o Date of production of the final product.

IV. REQUIREMENTS TO OBTAIN VS FORM 16-4 (ANIMAL PRODUCTS EXPORT CERTIFICATE) FROM APHIS FOR THE EXPORT OF THESE PRODUCTS

In addition to meeting all other APHIS-VS requirements (for obtaining the VS Form 16-4), the exporter must meet the following requirements. (Exporters should contact their Veterinary Services Area Office for more information.)

- a. Documentation from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or other competent federal, state, or local authority must be provided verifying that the manufacturing facility is "approved" to produce the product. This documentation may take the form of a certificate of free sale from the
 FDA, or other official documentation from another competent authority. (See item IIIa for more information on acceptable authorities).
- b. A <u>notarized</u> affidavit, on company letterhead, must be provided by the product manufacturer to the VS Area Office issuing the export certificate.
 This docume nt must be produced and endorsed by the manufacturing company, which is not necessarily the same entity as the exporter.
 This affidavit must contain the following statements:

This is to verify that [insert product name] is produced at [insert production facility name and address], a facility approved by [insert name of competent government authority issuing documentation referenced above] to produce [insert product description] containing [insert (2 or less) percent] meat. The animal origin ingredients in this product are: [insert list of animal origin ingredients including species of origin].

All animal origin ingredients (except for those originating from dairy, fish, and egg materials, and vitamins) [insert either "bear the FSIS mark of inspection" or "were imported from {insert country of origin} with the attached required certification of fitness for human consumption"].

The production facility maintains the following records for all products exported to Taiwan for at least 2 years:

- a. Species of origin of meat
- b. FSIS approved production facility of meat
- c. Quantity and date of receipt of meat ingredients
- d. Date of production of the final product

All products for export are packaged in new containers.

Lot number [insert specific lot number for which certification is being requested] was produced [insert on/or between date(s) of production].

[Insert if applicable**:

"The product has been heat-treated so that the core of the product (the minimum internal temperature) has reached a temperature of at least 70°C for at least 30 minutes, or at least 100°C for at least 2-3 minutes.

Certified materials have undergone all precautions to avoid contamination with pathogens causing animal diseases during and after treatment."]

I am the [insert signatory's title] of [insert name of manufacturer], the manufacturer of this commodity, and I am authorized to represent [insert name of manufacturer] in this manner.

I certify that the statements listed above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief."

3. At the discretion of the APHIS Area Veterinarian in Charge, APHIS may require inspection, at the manufacturing facility's expense, to verify all export requirements.

V. CERTIFICATE REQUIRED:

Products exported must be accompanied by a VS Form 16-4 (must be issued prior to the date of shipping).

The VS Form 16-4 must contain the following statements in the additional declaration area (no further information may be included):

^{**}If product is produced in areas Taiwan considers to be affected by Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) or exotic Newcastle Disease (END) and contains avian origin materials, the affidavit must also contain the se statements.

"This office has on file a notarized affidavit from [insert name of company] verifying the accuracy of the statements below.

The product referenced below was manufactured at [insert name and address of manufacturer].

This product was produced [insert on/or between date(s) of production].

This product contains animal origin materials derived from the following species of animals: [insert species of origin of all animal origin ingredients – may not include ruminant species].

Insert if applicable**:

'The product has been heat-treated so that the core of the product (the minimum internal temperature) has reached a temperature of at least 70°C for at least 30 minutes, or at least 100°C for at least 2-3 minutes.

Certified materials have undergone all precautions to avoid contamination with pathogens causing animal diseases during and after treatment.']"

**Product from areas Taiwan considers to be affected by Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) or exotic Newcastle Disease (END) which contain avian origin must also contain these statements.

The "PRODUCT" box of the VS Form 16-4 must also include <u>name</u>, <u>quantity</u>, and weight of the certified material, as well as a product description.

VI. Exporters should contact their local APHIS VS Area Office for more information.